

## 2024 UOL Essay Contest Topics

Pre-K and Kindergarten: (Category A)

Draw a picture of your favorite plant or animal that God created.

Grades 1 and 2: (Category B)

Draw a picture of Moses with the Ten Commandments. Then, please, write two to three sentences on why we need to follow the Ten Commandments.

Grades 3 and 4: (Category C)

How does God show His Love to man? Please write a paragraph (5 to 7 sentences) on your thoughts about this question.

Grades 5 and 6: (Category D)

What must we do to please God and save our souls? Please write 75 to 100 words on your thoughts.

Grades 7 and 8: (Category E)

Please write 150 to 200 words on the following. Define "faith" in your own words. How do you know you are faithful? Give examples from your life that showed people your faithfulness.

Grades 9 and 10: (Category F)

During the UOL convention this past summer, Metropolitan Antony told us that once we have received the body and blood of Christ, we are perfect. He said our challenge is to stay that way as we go out in our current society past our church doors. Please write 175 to 250 on what you think the Metropolitan meant by these words.

Grades 11 and 12: (Category G)

In an article written by Rev. Nicholas Fedorovich in 1971 for the Golden Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA and later published in 1973 he talks about the future of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the USA; "Our forefathers were forced to leave their native land we inherited neither silver, gold nor millions. ...They brought with them into new settlements a deep love for their church, their native tongue and their national traditions." How has this love of church, language and traditions shaped your lives and prepared you for your future? Please write 200 to 300 words on your thoughts.

Adult: (Category H)

Over 2,000 years ago "normal" people condemned Christ to death by shouting crucify Him. On Good Friday we erect tombs in our Churches to symbolize the burial of Christ. But Good Friday does not deal with the past alone. It is a day of sin, a day of evil, a day in which our Church invites us to realize the reality of the power sin and evil has over our lives. It invites us to ask ourselves, what side would we have been on had we lived in Jerusalem under Pilot. Please write 300 or more words explaining why and how you came to this decision.

